



BRITISH COLUMBIA  
REAL ESTATE  
ASSOCIATION

November 8, 2016

Micheal Noseworthy  
Superintendent of Real Estate  
2800 – 555 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6B 4N6  
Submitted by email (hard copy to follow): Micheal.Noseworthy@gov.bc.ca

Dear Mr. Noseworthy,

**RE: Changes to Council Publication Policies**

The Real Estate Council of BC recently announced its intention to publish upcoming notices of hearing on the Council's website starting on December 1, 2016. This would include the licensee's name, the allegations against them, and the date and time of the scheduled hearing.

We support your desire to enhance the transparency and effectiveness of the Council's disciplinary processes as well as provide consumers and licensees with easy to find information about discipline decisions and upcoming hearings.

We are writing to express our concern that publishing this information before any allegations have been substantiated creates a situation where licensees may be considered guilty before proven innocent. This is especially true when information is published online and accessible long after a hearing has been concluded, regardless of the outcome. If Council publishes information which may unfairly damage the reputation of a licensee, we are concerned it may result in an increase in complaints to the Privacy Commissioner and result in an additional drain on Council's resources.

BCREA is interested in discussing this further with you to see if we can find a compromise that meets the needs of the Council, consumers and licensees.

1420 – 701 Georgia Street W, PO Box 10123, Pacific Centre, Vancouver, BC V7Y 1C6

**President** Deanna Horn | **President-Elect** Jim Stewart | [bcrea@bcrea.bc.ca](mailto:bcrea@bcrea.bc.ca) | 604.683.7702 (tel)  
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BCREA is the professional association for more than 20,000 REALTORS® in BC, focusing on provincial issues that impact real estate. Working with the province's 11 real estate boards, BCREA provides continuing professional education, advocacy, economic research and standard forms to help REALTORS® provide value for their clients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Laing". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Laing  
Chief Executive Officer

Copies:           Hon. Mike de Jong, Minister of Finance  
                      Erin Seeley, Acting Executive Officer, Real Estate Council of BC  
                      David Eby, MLA – Vancouver-Point Grey  
                      Chris Carter, Deputy Superintendent of Real Estate